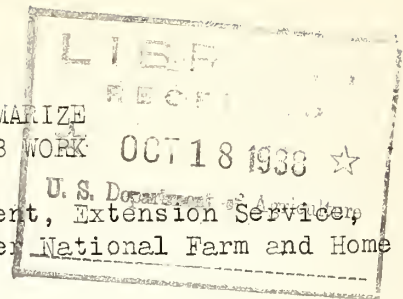


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PARENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE SUMMARIZE
THE OPPORTUNITIES IN 4-H CLUB WORK



Prepared by C. W. Ferguson, State Club Agent, Extension Service,
Colorado State College of A. & M. Presented over National Farm and Home
program October 1, 1938.

ANNOUNCER:

(DENVER) We are happy to introduce Mr. C. W. Ferguson, State Club Agent of the Extension Service of the Colorado State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts of Fort Collins who has prepared Colorado's part of the program. Mr. Ferguson.

C.W.F.:

Greetings from the cool and colorful State of Colorado to the many thousands of 4-H Club members and leaders over our United States. Today we are going to present a little sketch entitled "Parents and Young People Summarize the Opportunities in 4-H Club Work". Let us spend an evening together in a Colorado farm home.

As we come up on the porch we are invited into the large homey living room. Our eyes immediately turn to the beautiful old stone fireplace with a bright wood fire, on each side and in front of the fireplace are easy chairs and a davenport, with reading lamps close at hand.

Mr. O. E. Hodges, a local club leader and farmer from Sedgwick County, who will take the part of the father is seated in front of the fireplace in a comfortable chair reading the daily paper.

Albert Van Thuyne, twenty-year old 4-H Club boy from Boulder County, who takes the part of the son, is just coming in from feeding his 4-H beef calves. The mother, Mrs. J. H. Cuykendall, a local club leader from Weld County and the daughter, Frances Eble, a seventeen-year old club member from Mesa County are just finishing up the supper dishes out in the kitchen.

A little later Bernice Fletcher, a club girl from Elbert County, who lives on a neighboring farm will come to visit Frances.

Let's look in on the living room scene.

(SOUND EFFECTS: Crackling of the fire and the rustle of the newspaper as dad turns the page.)

ALBERT:

(Walking up to mic) Say, dad, that little white-faced steer with the white strip on his back is surely doing fine. It will be in top shape for the Denver Show.

DAD:

So I noticed when I came in from turning out the horses tonight. I stopped and looked at the steers and there is not a one out of the whole dozen that is not looking good.

(over)

DAD: (Continued)

I think you have a good chance to make some real money off that bunch if the market stays up.

ALBERT:

Well, even if prices do go down a little, I still have a chance for a profit. I believe I bought those steers right.

DAD:

Yes, you got them cheap enough alright.

MOTHER & FRANCES (Come walking in from the kitchen visiting):

FRANCES:

You know that blue wool dress I wore to church last winter Mother. I believe I can let down the hem and change the collar a little and it will make a good school dress for this winter.

MOTHER:

I think so too. You fellows look comfortable. Would you mind if we sat down?

ALBERT:

No, come on.

Well, dad, the National Western comes about the middle of January. I have about, let's see, October, November, December and part of January - about 115 days yet for those calves to put on weight.

FRANCES:

Oh, yes, all you and dad can talk about is feeding steers and growing beets. Why don't you ever get interested in something that mother and I do.

ALBERT:

Gee, Sis, we are, but you know that's what brings in the money.

FRANCES:

Is that so. I suppose what mother and I do doesn't bring in any money.

DAD: (Rustle paper as laying it down)

What's the matter with you kids now?

FRANCES:

Listen, dad, don't you think that mother and I help earn part of the money for this family?

DAD:

Let mother answer that question, sis.

MOTHER:

I certainly do.

ALBERT:

Listen, mother, in our beef club meetings we have been discussing the different opportunities we have in 4-H Club work.

MOTHER:

What do you mean?

ALBERT:

Well, 4-H Club work gives us a chance to do many things. For instance, those steers I have out in the lot are giving me an opportunity to make some money for myself so I don't have to ask you and dad for the money when I want to buy my graduation suit next spring.

FRANCES:

Or a Christmas present for Jessie.

ALBERT:

Oh, Sis, be yourself, I am trying to talk sense.

Well, anyway maybe I will make enough off the steers to get a start in college next fall.

Now that is one reason, another, I am having a lot of good experience in feeding out a bunch of cattle and keeping records on what it costs.

MOTHER:

Now, Frances, Albert has named two opportunities. What about you?

FRANCES:

I suppose you would say what we were talking about out in the kitchen is an opportunity.

MOTHER:

You mean sewing?

FRANCES:

Yes, you know, mother, when I started in club work I did not know anything about sewing and furthermore I did not care to learn. Then I joined a 4-H Club with Bernice, and we had so much fun working together that I became interested in making things.

You see if I had not had the opportunity of that 4-H Club, I probably wouldn't know straight up about remodeling that blue dress we were talking about.

MOTHER:

That's right. I tried to get you interested, and you wouldn't even try.

(Door bell rings)

MOTHER:

Albert, see who is at the door.

ALBERT: (Opens the door)
Oh, hello Bernice, come on in.

FRANCES: (Walks over)
Hello, kid, take off your coat and come in by the fire. Gee.
I am glad to see you.

BERNICE & FRANCES (walk closer to the mic)

BERNICE:
Hello, folks.

MOTHER:
Hello, Bernice.

DAD:
Hello, skipper!

MOTHER:
Come and sit down.

Albert, stir up the fire. (Sound of crackling wood)

ALBERT:
Now, dad, I am on the spot. It's two against one.

DAD:
Never mind, don't let them get you down.

MOTHER:
Bernice, Albert was telling us that in their club meetings they have been telling about the different opportunities the boys have had through 4-H Club work.

Frances was just saying as you came in that she has learned to sew.

BERNICE:
So have I. You know we have a large family and mother doesn't have time to sew for all of us. Since I am the oldest and know how to sew, I have had to do my own sewing as well as help mother make the dresses for the other girls.

MOTHER:
I know you do Bernice. Your mother has told me what a big help it is to her.

DAD:
Say, Bernice, you didn't do such a bad job of making that speech the other night down at the community club.

BERNICE:
You mean about my trip to the State Fair?

DAD:

Yes.

BERNICE:

Well, thanks, Mr. Warren. I was rather frightened. I don't know how good a job I did, but what I know about speaking before a group of people I learned by being on a 4-H demonstration team.

You know in giving a demonstration one has to learn to organize his talk and then get up before a group of people and give it.

MOTHER:

I think, Bernice, you could say that was an opportunity.

BERNICE:

What have you been doing today, Frances?

FRANCES:

Albert and dad were afraid it might frost tonight, so they picked all the ripe tomatoes. Mother was busy with her cleaning, so I said I would put up the tomatoes.

BERNICE:

How many did you can?

FRANCES:

What was it, mother, eighteen quarts?

MOTHER:

You did the work, you ought to know.

BERNICE:

When did you learn to can tomatoes?

FRANCES:

Oh, about three years ago when Mrs. Ross had a 4-H canning club.

BERNICE:

I think that is another opportunity.

MOTHER:

Albert, dad, wake up. Shame on you going to sleep when you have company.

DAD:

I have been listening.

MOTHER:

You have not, you have been sound asleep. The girls have been telling about some of the opportunities they have because of 4-H Club work.

ALBERT:

Yep, (and stretches) but the question has never been settled as to who makes the money around this house.

DAD:

Well, son, I think mother and sis will agree that it is livestock and crops that bring in the actual cash all right, but it is their thriftiness of making their own clothes and the canning and taking care of chickens and making our butter that also makes our money go farther. Is that right, mother?

MOTHER:

Yes, some times Frances and I wonder whether you men appreciate the number of things we do to help save a few cents.

ALBERT:

Mother, I'll admit that I had not really thought about it from that angle.

DAD:

You know, son, I once heard a retired farmer who lives up near Longmont say "If a farmer farms to make a living he will make money, but if he farms to make money he will go broke."

ALBERT:

I don't hardly get that.

DAD:

Now, Frances and Bernice, some day you girls might marry farmers and maybe this little explanation I am going to give Albert might help you.

Now, let's see I said, "If a farmer farms to make a living he will make money." I think our own family is a good illustration. We have our own garden, our milk, cream, butter and eggs. You know we butcher our own meat and mother and sis do the canning and sewing; so the money we receive out of our beets, grain and livestock does not have to be spent for these things. The things I have just mentioned are the biggest share of our living.

Now, "if a farmer farms to make money, he will go broke", that is if all we thought about was raising beets and crops and did not have our garden, chickens or cows or mother and sis went into the store and bought all their clothes and canned goods, why, the money we took in off our crops would have to go to buy these things.

ALBERT:

Say, that is a good idea. Was the fellow who said that rich?

DAD:

Yes, he was too old to work and had retired and was living off the income from his farm and investments.

(Sound of a muffled auto horn)

BERNICE:

Well, folks, there is dad. He has been to town so I will have to go. I have surely enjoyed getting in on your family discussion. I am going to suggest to mother and dad that we sit down some night and have our family talk things over. Goodnight.

MOTHER:

Come over again, Bernice.

MOTHER, DAD & ALBERT:

Goodnight.

(Frances walks over to the door with Bernice - talking)

FRANCES:

Are you going to Sunday School in the morning?

BERNICE:

Yes, are you?

FRANCES:

Sure. Well, I'll see you tomorrow, kid. Goodnight.

(Frances closes the door and comes walking into the living room saying:)

FRANCES:

Bernice is surely a fine girl, don't you like her, mother?

MOTHER:

Yes, I do and I am glad you chum around with her.

FRANCES:

I think she enjoyed our discussion tonight. Did you notice how she was taking everything in.

DAD:

Do you kids know that I had never stopped to realize the number of opportunities you are having in 4-H Club work.

ALBERT:

Say, dad, we didn't even get a good start tonight. Last week at our club meeting Mr. Dressor, our leader, suggested the secretary write the opportunities down on the blackboard as the different fellows gave them. Say, there was a whole string of them.

MOTHER:

What do you children and dad think if about twice a month we sit down like this, by ourselves, and talk over various things we are all interested in, because you children know or should know that the success of our family depends on your ideas as well as on dad's and mine.

ALBERT:

I think that would be a good idea, even if dad and I did go to sleep, I learned a lot.

DAD (YAWNING)

You folks can stay up just as long as you wish, but I am going to hit the hay. Albert, let's go out and each get a log and put on the fire and the house won't be so cold in the morning when we get up.

ALBERT:

All right dad, let's go.

C.W.F.:

And we leave our interesting family and tell you, you have been listening to a little sketch entitled "Parents and Young People Summarize the Opportunities in 4-H Club Work" presented by the Extension Service of the Colorado Agricultural College. Those taking part were the father, O. E. Hodges of Sedgwick County,

ANNOUNCER:

the mother, Mrs. J. H. Cuykendall of Weld County,

C.W.F.:

Miss Frances Eble of Mesa County, the daughter,

ANNOUNCER:

Albert Van Thuyne of Boulder County, playing the part of the son,

C.W.F.:

the neighbor girl and chum of Frances, Miss Bernice Fletcher of Elbert County,

ANNOUNCER:

and C. W. Ferguson, State 4-H Club leader of Colorado who wrote the sketch.
